

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-36 are currently pending in the application. In an Office Action mailed June 2, 2005, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Claims 1, 13, 15, 17, 28, 29, and 35 were objected to for containing certain informalities. Claims 1, 5, 12, 13, 29, 30, 33, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 2-4, 6-11, 31, 32, 34, and 35 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 15-28 were objected to as containing a minor informality but as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the identified informalities.

Claims 1, 13, 17, 28, 29, 32, 35, and 36 have been amended as indicated above to clarify the invention. Claims 3, 30, and 31 have been canceled. Claims 37-44 have been added by way of this amendment. A new drawing sheet containing FIGURE 16 has been provided for Examiner's review and approval. The specification has been amended to reflect the addition of FIGURE 16. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks that follow, applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Objection to the Drawings Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a)

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Moreover, the Office Action stated that:

... the plunger coupled to the carrier and the apertures disposed in the support of claims 6 and 21; the cable assembly of claims 11 and 26; the user of claims 15 and 36; and the cable assemblies of claim 36 must be shown or the features(s) canceled from the claim(s).

Applicant attaches on separate paper a new sheet containing FIGURE 16 for Examiner's review and approval. The new sheet is identified in the top margin with the text "New Sheet." FIGURE 16 shows the features discussed and claimed in the originally filed application but not shown. Applicant has deleted the term "user" from Claims 15 and 36, and therefore the user has

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not been shown FIGURE 16. In light of the above, applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

The specification has been amended to reflect the addition of FIGURE 16. Applicant notes support for the amendments to the specification may be found at least at the following sections of the specification: page 5, line 24, through page 6, line 6; page 11, lines 4-11; and originally filed Claims 6, 11, 21, and 26. Applicant hereby asserts that no new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 13, 15, 17, 28, 29, and 35 were objected to for containing certain informalities. Applicant thanks Examiner for her careful review of the claims and the pointing out of these informalities. Applicant has amended Claims 1, 13, 15, 17, 28, 29, and 35 to correct the same, and therefore respectfully requests the objections to these claims be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 5, 12, 13, 29, 30, 33, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,042,168, issued to Bieri (hereinafter "Bieri"). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Nevertheless, to expedite allowance of the application, applicant has amended Claim 1 to contain all of the limitations of Claim 3, which the Office Action has indicated as allowable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1, and all of the claims depending therefrom. To further expedite allowance of the application, applicant has amended Claim 29 to contain all of the limitations of Claim 31, and intervening Claim 30, which the Office Action has indicated as allowable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 29, and all of the claims depending therefrom.

New Claims 37-44

New Claims 37-44 have been added to further point out and distinctly claim the novel aspects of the claimed embodiments of the present invention. Applicant submits that the prior

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art, alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest applicant's claimed embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 37-44. Therefore, applicant submits that new Claims 37-44 are allowable over the prior art.

Applicant notes that new Claim 37 is Claim 2 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Similarly, Claim 38 is Claim 4, Claim 39 is Claim 6, Claim 40 is Claim 8, Claim 41 is Claim 11, Claim 42 is Claim 32, Claim 43 is Claim 34, and Claim 44 is Claim 35, rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as indicated as allowable in the Office Action.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that the above-identified patent application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application, as amended, and allowance of the claims at an early date are solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this matter, she is invited to contact applicant's attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

A new sheet containing FIGURE 16 has been provided for the Examiner's review and approval. The new sheet is provided on a separate page attached hereto and is identified in the top margin with the text "New Sheet."